

In the World of Sports.

GRIFFIN'S PLAYERS ARE DROPPING IN

Twelve of Them Had Reached the City Last Night.

ALL ARE IN GOOD CONDITION

Beard, Boyd, Daly, Egan, O'Brien Massey and Verkes the Latest Arrivals--Practice at Athletic Park Begins Today in Earnest--Games Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

Twelve of Scranton's team of baseball players were contained in the city last night, and it was expected that several would arrive on the late night train. Catcher Boyd, Pitcher Verkes, First Baseman Massey, Shortstop O'Brien and Outfielders Egan, Daly and O'Brien were the day's arrivals, and these with Catcher O'Neill, Pitcher Wellner and Morse, Outfielder Walters and Manager Brown are the whole complement now here.

Ollie Reed reached the St. Charles hotel at 9 o'clock after a continuous 20-hour ride from his home at Louisville, Ky. He might be called the most "distinguished arrival," as he is looked upon as the probable captain on whom will rest a great deal of the responsibility in the coming struggle. He has been practicing for several weeks with the Louisville players and ought to be in good condition. He, Boyd and Daly comprise the ex-Rochester trio. Beard speaks in the highest terms of the latter two.

"Jack" O'Brien and nifty Peter Egan came on together from their homes at Troy, where they live and have their being in the same ward. They, too, say they have had several weeks of practice. Peter is a crack cracker, and during the winter spent a large part of his time on the water. He is fifteen pounds lighter than at the close of last season, but will get his avoirdupois back again, as he always does in the game.

Manager "Sandy" was at Athletic park during the day with Walters, Wellner, Morse and O'Neill. A number of clever amateurs were on the ground and the whole lot combined in showing their paces to an interested audience of perhaps 250 persons. Wellner was seen at work for the first time. He is a big, strong fellow, with the advantage of youth and suppleness and created a favorable impression.

Today and tomorrow will be occupied in hammering up for the first practice game.

It was incorrectly stated that the first game would be on Saturday. The original Cuban Giants came here for games Thursday and Friday. On Saturday the city boys will have their first game with the Athletics, and will stop at Reading en route for home on Tuesday and Wednesday.

"The straight and outspoken charge of farming," which the Buffalo Express says is made by the Scranton Tribune against the Toronto club, is not going to worry the other clubs in the Eastern league at all. The chances are that if Toronto is a farm they know all about it long before the Scranton paper called attention to it--Toronto Globe. Possibly so, but the Globe reproduced The Tribune article at the time, and made no comment upon it, which indicates that the Globe didn't "know all about it," or wouldn't deny it, or that there has been an astounding change of heart recently among the Toronto writers and that they have decided to stand by their club. We published last week in this department a special communication from Toronto to which indicated that the prospects there were very bright; for this outlook every base ball writer on the circuit and all the clubs will be thankful. It is true, nevertheless, that Manager Irwin is receiving now some support which would have been of more aid to him if it had been less tardy.

F. H. Kirby, of the Providence Journal, a shrewd observer, writes to the Syracuse Courier as follows concerning the Providence team: "The champion Providence club will enter the field with quite the same make-up as last year. Wigan and Will take Canavan's place at second base, and he is an active fielder and rattling batsman. The Grays will not have Pitcher Lewis, but may have Dolan. Pitcher Egan is again with the Grays, and his arm appears to be in prime condition. Braun, the new pitcher, is a comer. It certainly looks as if there will be a Syracuse certainly appears to be stronger than last year. It is to be hoped that Farrer is a quit tall and company. Scranton will make a better showing. Buffalo and Rochester will cut some figure in the fight, and Burns and Irwin may surprise folks after the signing."

The private box for the president of the United States at the Washington base ball park has been completed, and presents an imposing appearance. It is located about fifty feet to the left of the press box, and is reached by a private entrance. The interior of the box will be tastefully decorated and made as comfortable as the situation and circumstances will permit. Manager Schmelz says that Mr. Wagner has been given to understand that President McKinley will be a frequent spectator at the game.

YESTERDAY'S BALL GAMES.

Philadelphia-Athletics. Philadelphia, April 12--The Phillies did as they pleased with the Athletics of the Atlantic league today, in an exhibition game. Score: R.H.E. Philadelphia.....1 2 3 3 3 0 1--16 17 4 Athletics.....0 0 0 0 1 0 0--1 3 7 Batteries--Orth, Brandt and Clements; Grady, Conn, Cain, Ames, and Fox, Berry P. Schaub.

Washington-Toronto.

Washington, April 12--Toronto fell an easy victim before Washington today. Score: R.H.E. Washington.....1 0 0 0 5 0 0--7 11 0 Toronto.....1 0 0 0 0 0 0--1 5 3 Batteries--McJames, Morse, Ashe, McGuire, Farrell; Dinmen, Dannenhauer, Isaker.

Reading-Cuban X Giants.

Reading, Pa., April 12--Reading nearly shut out the Cuban X Giants. Score: R.H.E. Cuban X Giants.....0 0 0 0 0 0 0--1 2 0 Reading.....0 0 2 1 0 0 0--11 5 3 Batteries--Williams, Manning and Smith; Kneels, Collins and Amole.

Baltimore-Norfolk.

Baltimore, Md., April 12--The Orioles played their first exhibition game on the home grounds here today, defeating the Norfolk team. Score: R.H.E. Baltimore.....0 0 2 0 3 3 0 0--8 6 2 Norfolk.....0 0 0 0 1 0 0 0--1 6 5 Batteries--Nops, Congan and Robinson; Gilroy, Claude and Hayden.

Lancaster-Cuban Giants.

Lancaster, Pa., April 12--The base ball season was opened here today with a game between the Lancaster club and the Cuban Giants, the former winning. Score: R.H.E. Lancaster.....1 0 2 0 8 0 0 0 2--13 11 5 Cuban Giants.....0 0 1 0 0 3 0 0 0--4 9 11 Batteries--Yeager, Hepling and Roth; Robinson, Miller and Jordan.

CORBETT IN THE RING.

He Made a Speech During a Philadelphia Boxing Bout--Not Crying Over His Defeat.

Philadelphia, April 12--Jack Daly, of Wilmington, and Jack Everhart, of New Orleans, appeared tonight in the arena of the Quaker City Athletic club in a six-round bout.

The first three rounds were rather tame, scarcely a dozen clean blows being struck. In the fourth round Daly went at the New Orleans man and landed repeatedly with his left on Everhart's neck. The latter was doing practically no leading, evidently awaiting an opportunity to land his right. The fifth round was a repetition of the fourth. Everhart sent Daly's head back with a stiff left punch just as the round closed. The sixth round was slightly in favor of Daly. The fight was Daly's.

While the bout between Boyle and McMahon was on, James J. Corbett came into the arena. The crowd cheered wildly, and there were loud cries for a speech. At the conclusion of the sixth round Corbett climbed into the ring and said: "Gentlemen, I thank you kindly for this reception. I want to say to you all that I was whipped honestly and fairly by Mr. Fitzsimmons. I don't intend to go and drink myself to death worrying over my defeat. It was the first set-back of my life. I'm young yet and I hope within the next year or so to prove to you that I am still the champion of the world."

There were four six-round bouts previous to the wind up. Paddy Donovan had the best of his go with "Midgitt" Glynn; George Holland fought a draw with Marty McCue, of New York; Danny McMahon was defeated by "Crooky" Beck; the bout between Leonard Strauss and Horace Leeds was stopped by the referee in the fifteenth round, the Atlantic City man having Strauss almost out.

DIAMOND DUST.

Toronto lost Saturday's game at Peterson by the score of 3 to 4, but won Sunday by 10 to 2. The initial games at Newark Saturday and Sunday by scores of 14 to 4 and 16 to 8.

Father Chadwick predicts that St. Louis and Louisville will ornament the end of the string this year.

If Egan captains Syracuse, who will captain Egan?--Scranton Tribune Answer. Egan, of course. Syracuse "lover" That's nice. It's always a credit to a man to do some good deed which nobody else has been able to accomplish.

President Byrne, of the Brooklyn club, stated Sunday night that he had received Baltimore's conditions for the release of Doyle, but they were of such a nature as to practically put Doyle's deal. This indicates that Hanlon still has a high opinion of Doyle.

Next Saturday the champion Providence Grays will play their first practice game against the Pawtucket club in Pawtucket and in the following week they will play on Monday at Fall River, Tuesday at Andover park with the Philadelphia, Thursday at Lincoln field with the Brown university team and Saturday with Brown at Adelaide park.

Here's a tip for Scranton pitchers: "When I first came into the big league," says Mercer, "I thought I wasn't the real thing unless I swung this wing of mine around like a windmill and shot 'em up with speed in imitation of Amos Rusie's catapult favorite. That's a trick I learned in minor leagues, but I soon found it was a waste of time. The best I could do was to throw them over with a little steam once in awhile during the exhibition games, just to keep your hand in, but don't overdo it."

Swartwood is deficient on balls and strikes--feelsly so--indecisive and vacillating. Keefe is likewise of poor eye, and lacks speed. The last heard of him was he was sick in Boston--Buffalo Enquirer. Keefe has more right in a trial than as if he had never happened. The few games he tried to umpire last season were characterized by constant false decisions, wrangling with the players and disgust among the spectators. The few games were but little more than burlesque. Save us from Tom Kelly.

AMATEUR BALL NOTES.

The Violets of the South Side challenge any club in the city or in Duaneboro for Sunday April 18, at 2 o'clock. John Stengel, manager; M. Gray, captain.

The two crack amateur teams of last year, the Harmones and Morning Glories, have consolidated, and present the following aggregation for the amateurs of this county to think over: Finerity, catcher; Cawley and Ruane, pitchers; Gaughan, first base; Cushman, second base; Logan, shortstop; Hume, third base; Sweney, left field; Burke, center field; Crossen, right field. McAndrew will pitch third base when he returns from college.

Philadelphia-Athletics.

The old-time amateurs will receive with interest the news of the reorganization of the Eureka Base Ball club. It was thought that recently that suitable grounds could not be obtained, but negotiations are now pending and if they materialize an excellent place will be secured. Those who will represent the Eureka this year are: Philip Reagan, catcher; George Bieg, pitcher; John Keenehan, first base; John Gallagher, second base; Frank Reagan, third base; Thomas Haffner, shortstop; Patrick Lavelle, center field; P. McHugh, left field; and Martin McDonald, right field.

M'NALLY'S GREAT FEAT.

Boston's Famous Life Saver to Swim the English Channel--Twenty-six Nautical Miles.

Peter S. McNally, the Boston champion long-distance swimmer and life saver, will sail for England in May, and after several weeks of hard training he will attempt to swim across the English channel from Dover to Calais, a distance of twenty-one nautical miles, or twenty-six statute miles. This swim has been accomplished by only two persons, the late Captain Webb, who lost his life in a foolhardy attempt to swim the Niagara rapids, and Captain Paul Boynton, who crossed in an inflated rubber suit. Hundreds of expert swimmers have unsuccessfully tried to make passage across the channel, but this fact does not seem to be at all discouraging to McNally. He is confident that he can accomplish the trip, and those of his friends who are acquainted with his abilities as a swimmer are equally confident that he will be successful.

McNally was born in Boston 32 years ago. He has been an expert swimmer since early childhood, and when only 7 years of age made a rescue from drowning. He continued his good work until today he has a record of more than 60 rescues for which he has received the highest honors from the Massachusetts Humane society, including the society's gold medal, and last year he was signally honored by the national government, congress awarding him a medal for exceptional acts of bravery. His career as a life saver has been remarkable, but not more so than his career as a long-distance swimmer. His powers of endurance in the water appear to be almost limitless, while the conditions, whether favorable or unfavorable seem to be of no importance whatever to this hardy navigator. Last year, for example, he made the trip from Haverhill to Newburyport, a distance of 18 nautical miles, on July 2, in 4 hours and 35 minutes, and on August 19 swam from Newport to Narragansett Pier, 13 miles in the open sea, in 4 hours and 57 minutes. Captain Paul Boynton failed while attempting this course after covering four miles, and two New England millionaire sportsmen, who were matched to swim it about the same time McNally did, abandoned it on account of the many dangers to be encountered.

In the channel trip McNally realizes that he has the hardest task of his life on his hands. He knows that he has much to suffer; that he must overcome the most painful cramps of every variety; that he will have to withstand heavy, aggravating seas, severe attacks of nausea, spitting headaches; that he will suffer cold, fatigue, monotony of the most depressing kind; and also great pain to the most sensitive organs of the eyes. It is possible that he will become temporarily blind and will have to swim in darkness--even in the daylight he may remain blind for a long number of hours--for the effect of the salt seas striking the eyes continually is painful and almost unendurable. He has experienced all these things before and knows how to combat them. Ability to endure great physical pain is the chief secret of long-distance swimming, but of course one must know how to utilize one's strength to the best advantage. McNally is a powerful swimmer, has a splendid physique, lots of ambition and possesses all the other qualities necessary to bring about a successful result to this great trial of strength and skill.

NATIONAL ROAD RECORDS.

Report of Committee of Century Road Club of America.

The report of the road record committee of the Century Road club of America, which has control of road racing, has been announced. The annual mileage record goes to A. A. Gracy, of Philadelphia, who rode 22,848 miles, with S. M. Warns, of Baltimore, second, he having covered 19,350. R. E. O'Connor, of Chicago, was third, with 18,255 miles. The championship was claimed by E. N. Roth, of Chicago, whose record is placed at 21,787 miles for the year, but the road record committee did not think he covered that distance, and ruled his about a successful result to this great trial of strength and skill.

WHIRLS OF THE WHEEL.

The French Touring club has 50,000 members. A low gear is a slow gear. A high gear is a fast gear. Harry Tyler denies that he is about to resume racing. Jay Eaton will follow the southern bicycle circuit from Nashville.

MISS CUTLER'S HIGH JUMP.

Pretty Brooklyn Girl Clears the Bar at Five Feet Four Inches.

New York, April 12--The gymnasium of the Adelphi academy, of Brooklyn, was the scene of a very athletic contest between a score of rosy-cheeked, athletic-looking girls, who surprised the spectators with their graceful feats of strength. The heroine of the evening was Miss Ruth Cutler, who won the championship of her class by clearing the bar in the high jump at five feet four inches. The girls wore regulation gymnasium costumes, consisting of Turkish trousers, sailor waists, black stockings and slippers. The exhibition was concluded with a dance.

PRIZE-RING CHAMPIONS.

List of the Most Notable World's Events Since 1718.

The following is a list of the champions of the ring from 1719 to the present time: 1719--Piper and Greeting, 1724 George Taylor. 1740--Jack Broughton, 1750--Jack Slack, 1760--Bill Stevens. 1761--George Stange, 1764--Bill Davis, 1769--Lyons. 1777--Harry Sellers, 1780--Harris, 1780--Jack Tom (alias Johnson), 1792--Mendoza, 1795--Jackson (retired). 1800--Jim Belcher, 1806--Pearce (Game Cock). 1808--Gulley (declined title). 1809--Tom Cribb received a belt, not transferable, and cup. 1824--Tom Spring received four cups and resigned title. 1825--Jem Ward received a belt, not transferable. 1828--Don Burke claimed the title. 1829--Bendigo (W. Thompson) beat Deaf Burke, claimed championship and received a belt from Jem Ward. 1841--Nick Ward (brother to Jem) beat Caut, Feb. 2. Caut beat Nick Ward and received a belt by substitution. The belt was transferred. 1842--Bendigo beat Caut and got the belt. 1849--Tass Parker beat Tom Parker for \$200 a side and the championship. 1850--Perry (the Tipton Slasher), after his fight with Paddock, claimed the title. 1851--Harry Broome beat Perry and succeeded to the title. 1852--Perry again claimed the title, Harry Broome having forfeited \$100 to him in a match, and retired from the ring on Aug. 12. 1857--Tom Sayers beat Perry for \$1,000 a side and the championship. 1858--Tom Sayers retired after his fight with Heenan, leaving the old belt open for competition. 1859--Sam Hurrell (the Statybridge Infant), beat Paddock. Both claimed the title of champion. The belt handed to Hurrell. 1861--Jem Mace beat Hurrell. 1862--Jem Mace beat Tom King (January) for \$1,000 and the belt. 1863--Jem Mace beat Moore (November) and claimed the belt, which he subsequently gave up, declining again to meet Mace. Mace again claimed the belt. 1865--Joe Wormald beat Marden, \$1,000 a side and the belt, both having claimed the championship. The belt handed to Wormald. Forfeited to Mace, who again claimed. 1867--Jem Mace and Joe Goss, a draw. 1868--Joe Wormald received forfeit from E. Baldwin, \$1,000 and the championship. Baldwin, absent at the time, placed. Wormald claimed the belt. 1869--Jem Mace and E. Baldwin, a draw. \$1,000 a side and the championship. Baldwin, absent at the time, placed. Wormald claimed the belt. 1870--Jem Mace and T. Allen, in America, for championship of the world. 1871--Jem Mace beat T. Allen, in America, for championship of the world. 1872--Jem Mace and J. Coburn fought a draw for \$2,500 and the championship. 1873--John L. Sullivan defeated Paddy Ryan, championship of America, Mississippi City, Miss. London prize. 1874--Jem Mace beat Jack Davis for \$500 a side and the championship of England. 1875--Jack Kirrain and Jem Smith, a draw. \$1,000 and the Police Gazette championship-of-the-world belt. 1876--John L. Sullivan beat Jack Kirrain for \$1,000 a side and the Police Gazette belt, at Richburg, Miss., July 8. 1877--Jem Smith and Frank P. Shavin fought to a draw for \$2,500 a side and championship of England. 1878--Robert Fitzsimmons defeated Jack Dempsey, middleweight championship of the world, thirteen rounds, New Orleans, Dec. 14. 1881--James J. Corbett and Peter Jackson fought their memorable draw, sixty-one rounds, San Francisco, Cal., May 2. Declared "No contest" by referee. 1882--James J. Corbett beat John L. Sullivan, championship of America, twelve-round rounds, New Orleans, La., Sept. 7. 1883--James J. Corbett beat Charles Johnson in 11 rounds, three rounds, New Orleans, La., Jan. 25. 1885--Peter Maher, by gift. He beat Steve O'Donnell in one round in one minute, the second round at Manseth, L. I., and was given the championship by James J. Corbett, who retired. 1886--Robert Fitzsimmons beat Peter Maher in one round in one minute thirty-five seconds in Texas, opposite Langtry, Tex. 1887--Robert Fitzsimmons won undisputed title from James J. Corbett at Carson, Nev., in fourteen rounds.

Ruth Cutler, who won the championship of her class by clearing the bar in the high jump at five feet four inches. The girls skinned over the bar like a flock of swallows until it reached the formidable height of Miss Cutler's jump. When that young woman took it easily she was vociferously applauded. The girls wore regulation gymnasium costumes, consisting of Turkish trousers, sailor waists, black stockings and slippers. The exhibition was concluded with a dance.

STEWART COMING EAST.

He Wants to Arrange Another Fight for Fitz and Corbett. Dallas, Tex., April 12--Dan A. Stuart has departed for New York. He will remain there several days and try to arrange for a second battle between Corbett and Fitzsimmons. From New York he will sail for Europe.

Geers' Arm Broken.

Selma, Ala., April 12--"Ed" Geers, the well known trainer of the Hamlin trotters from Village Farm, Buffalo, N. Y., who is here wintering a large number of horses with champion records, met with a painful accident. One of his horses commenced kicking, and Geers was thrown from the saddle. His arm was broken by a kick of the horse and he was hurt on his leg.

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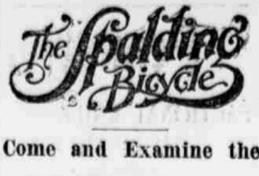
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